

Claim Amendments:

Kindly amend the claims to read as follows:

1. (currently amended) A functional fiber sheet comprising synthetic fiber, at least one face ~~or both faces~~ thereof being coated with a physically vapor-deposited transparent film ~~having a transparency of at least 30% at a wavelength of 550 nm~~ comprising metallic oxides, wherein said metallic oxides comprise a mixture of ~~principal oxides containing oxygen in 2 valence state~~ an ordinary oxide as a main component and a small amount of oxides having a lower valence than ~~the principal oxides~~ said ordinary oxide as a secondary component, wherein said metallic oxide is titanium oxide, its ordinary oxide being a tetravalent oxide and said lower valence oxides being divalent or trivalent oxides, and the amount of lower valence oxides to the total amount of the metallic oxides is about 0.1 to 20 wt% of the mixture; and wherein the physically vapor-deposited film contains no fluorine and has a thickness of about 5 to 500 nm.

2. (canceled)

3. (currently amended) The functional fiber sheet described in Claim 1 wherein ~~said metallic oxide is titanium oxide, its principal oxide being a tetravalent oxide and wherein said lower valence oxides are divalent or trivalent oxides~~ the thickness of said physically vapor-deposited film is 5 to 500 nm.

4. (currently amended) A method for manufacturing ~~the~~ a functional fiber sheet ~~of claim 1~~ comprising the steps of:

forming a physically vapor-deposited transparent film of metallic oxides ~~containing no fluorine~~ on a fiber sheet through a physical vapor deposition process;

forming ~~principal oxides containing oxygen in -2 valence state~~ an ordinary oxide as a main component of the metallic oxides of the physically vapor-deposited transparent film by increasing the amount of oxygen to be supplied during the physical vapor deposition process; and

forming a small amount of oxides having a lower valence than ~~the principal oxides~~ said ordinary oxide as a secondary component of the metallic oxides by lowering the amount of oxygen to be supplied to the physical vapor deposition process,

wherein said metallic oxide is titanium oxide, its ordinary oxide being a tetravalent oxide and said lower valence oxides being divalent or trivalent oxides, and the amount of lower valence oxides to the total amount of the metallic oxides is 0.1 to 20 wt%.

5. (original) The functional fiber sheet as set forth in Claim 1 wherein the synthetic fiber comprises synthetic fiber used in usual knit and woven use.

6. (original) The functional fiber sheet as set forth in Claim 1 wherein the synthetic fiber comprises polyester fiber, nylon fiber, acrylic fiber or polyimide fiber.